

Romulus News

JANUARY 13, 2006 – JANUARY 26, 2006

"the little paper"

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 12

Timely Tidbits ...

"State of the City"

Mayor Alan R. Lambert will deliver the annual "State of the City" address at the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce's next business luncheon, to be held at the Airport Marriott Hotel at noon on Tuesday, January 17. Tickets (advance only) are \$13 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. For reservations, call the Chamber at 734-326-4290.

Search Is On for New Superintendent

The Romulus Board of Education recently selected the Michigan Association of School Boards to conduct the district's search for a new superintendent to replace Joel R. Carr when he retires at the end of the current school year.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the process by attending an open forum that will be conducted by MASB consultant Peter Silveri at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, in the auditorium at Romulus High School (9650 South Wayne Road, just north of I-94).

Dick Kruse, PR director for the Romulus Community Schools, said that Silveri will provide an overview of the search process, and will welcome community members' input regarding the qualifications that should be considered in making this important decision.

"Living Nutritiously"

The Romulus Public Library and the Friends of the Romulus Public Library have partnered with Kristen M. Pierce, RD, NASM-CPT, to present Living Nutritiously – a three-part program offered at the library (11121 Wayne Road) at 6:45 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Program segments will be:

- Nutrition for Health & Weight Loss (January 25)
- Exercise for Health & Weight Loss (February 22)
- Stress Management for Health & Well Being (March 22)

Although the program is free, advance registration is required. Call 734-942-7589. □

Papazoglou Is New Director of Business and Operations for Romulus Community Schools

At its regular meeting of January 9, 2006, the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education appointed Sherri Papazoglou (pronounced Pah-PAH-zah-glue) to the position of Director of Business and Operations. Papazoglou, who will assume her new duties on January 30, is succeeding William Routhier, who retired from the district last October.

"Ms. Papazoglou comes to the Romulus schools with impressive education and professional credentials," said Dick Kruse, the district's PR director. Those credentials include a bachelor's degree in business administration (professional accounting major) from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in business finance (finance major) from Wayne State University, as well as membership in both the Oakland County and Michigan School Business Officials organizations. She has also earned the MSBO's prestigious Chief Financial Officer certification.

Papazoglou's career has included assignments as Director of Business Services in the Clawson school district and Fiscal Coordinator and Chief Financial Officer for the Downriver Community Conference. She coordinated budgets of \$15–\$22 million for these organizations.

"Ms. Papazoglou has had extensive experience dealing with financial issues, such as Clawson's \$33-million bond, \$5-million sinking fund, and bond refinancing programs," noted Kruse. "She has had additional experience dealing with monies from multiple funding agencies, and has expertise in coordinating grants from local, regional, state, and federal agencies."

During her time in Clawson, Papazoglou's duties included supervision of all fiscal and computer operations, transportation, maintenance and operations, contract negotiations, and school lunch programs. Throughout her six-year ca-



Sherri Papazoglou

reer with the district, she was able to maintain a budget surplus. According to Kruse, a good deal of her success can be attributed to her management philosophy, which "stresses a cooperative approach, working with people, and offering solutions to problems," he said.

Papazoglou is married to husband George, who puts his engineering background to good work at Plastech Corporation, where he is employed as a senior program manager.

The two enjoy spending time with their families and traveling. □

City Celebrates Dr. King's Legacy

Romulus will honor the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Monday, January 16, with its annual parade, breakfast, and remembrance programs. The three events – jointly sponsored by the Romulus Community Schools, the City of Romulus, and the Romulus Ministerial Association – have drawn large crowds in the past, and RCS curriculum director Tom Dolan, who chaired this year's organizing committee, is hopeful that the tradition will continue this year.

"We're looking forward to another wonderful day that will commemorate Dr. King's accomplishments," he said.

Kicking off the celebration will be the 1.25-mile Walk for Warmth from Romulus Middle School (37300 Wick Road, at Ozga) to Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road, just north of I-94). Walkers are welcome to drop into the Middle School cafeteria for coffee starting at 8 a.m.; the parade will begin at 8:30 a.m.

Parade participants and other supporters who cannot or do not wish to march are then invited to a pancake breakfast in the High School cafeteria from 8 to 10 a.m. The complimentary breakfast is being provided courtesy of the Romulus Education Association and the Michigan Education Association, and

will be prepared and served by the RHS Athletics Department.

This memorial tribute will begin at 10:15 a.m. in the RHS auditorium. Featured guests will include Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Superintendent Joel R. Carr, Reverend Arthur Willis of Pentecostal Baptist Church, and Reverend William Kren of Community United Methodist Church. Performances by several school and community groups will be among the highlights of the event.

Finally, in support of RCS technology director Ed Horn, who was recently diagnosed with a rare type of cancer, a bone marrow drive will be conducted at the High School in conjunction with the MLK Day program. From 8 to 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., potential donors age 18 to 59 will have the opportunity to register with the National Marrow Donor Program by filling out a simple health questionnaire and giving a small sample of blood from one of their fingertips. Due to the low number of minority donors, the NMDP is waiving its usual \$65 fee (for HLA typing) for all minority registrants. For more information, call the NMDP's Tarita Gibson (313-833-2624) or the High School's Angelica Richardson (734-532-1113). □

Mother-Son Dance

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation will host its annual Mother-Son Valentine's Day Dance from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, in the cafeteria at Romulus High School (9650 South Wayne Road, north of I-94).

A cost of \$8 per couple plus \$2 for each additional son (cash only) covers music and refreshments plus a flower for Mom and one photograph.

Tickets *must* be purchased in advance – *no exceptions*. Register at the Recreation Center (35765 Northline Road) by 12 p.m. on Monday, February 6.

For more information, please contact the Recreation Department (734-941-8665) during its normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. □

Letter to the Editor

Post Office Says Thanks for Donations

To the Editor:

The employees of the Romulus Post Office would like to thank all of our customers who donated phone cards for the wounded soldiers and for all of the mittens donated to our mitten tree.

We collected over 80 phone cards worth over 11,000 minutes of time for the soldiers to use to call loved ones. We split them up and mailed them by express mail to both the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and to the Brooke Army Burn Center in San Antonio Texas. We received a letter of thanks from the American Red Cross at the Walter Reed Medical Center, which received and distributed the phone cards to the soldiers.

We also collected a large bag full of mittens, hats, and scarves from the mitten tree, and presented them to the Romulus firefighters, who then distributed them to the needy families in Rom-

ulus through the local Goodfellows organization.

Thank you very much to all of our customers who donated so generously!

Diane Puroll
Postmaster
Romulus

* * *

Editor's note: All letters to the edit MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity.

Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so. All letters requesting anonymity will be treated confidentially, regardless of whether or not they are published in the paper.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity. □

Romulus Police Officer Takes H.E.A.T.

Corporal Dwayne DeCaires of the Romulus Police Department has been named "Investigator of the Year" by the H.E.A.T. (Help Eliminate Auto Theft) program. DeCaires earned H.E.A.T.'s recognition this past summer, when he led an investigation that recovered four cars valued at \$100,000 and also resulted in the arrest of three suspects.

On December 20, 2005, Corporal DeCaires was joined by Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert and H.E.A.T. director Terri Miller, as well as his fellow officers, wife Kathy, and sons Ryan and Eric, for a recognition ceremony held in his honor. During the program, he was presented

with a commemorative plaque and the "coveted" Investigator of the Year shirt.

Mayor Lambert praised Corporal DeCaires for the excellent work he did on the theft investigation.

"We are lucky that we have a police force staffed with Dwayne DeCaires and so many other hard-working men and women," Lambert stated.

Each year, H.E.A.T. bestows its Investigator of the Year awards in four categories based on city population:

- above 500,000
- 100,000 to 500,000
- 50,000 to 100,000
- under 50,000 □



Corporal Dwayne DeCaires (center) of the Romulus Police Department accepted a plaque and congratulations from Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert (left) and H.E.A.T. program director Terri Miller.

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We are sorry, but we cannot guarantee the return of any photograph submitted to us, although every attempt will be made to do so.

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Board Hears Cookie Club Presentation



Members of Barth Elementary's Cookie Club recently appeared before the Romulus Board of Education for a presentation about their program. Pictured are: (from left) front – Terrell Ward, Kevin Beard, Marcell Ward, Shyann Smith, Marvin Jackson, Alexei Helton, and Gwen Block; back – Sue Mitchell (social worker), Dan Solgot (paraprofessional), Jeff Legg (special-education teacher), and Judy Aakwright (RESA consultant).

GM Supports Toys for Tots

For the eighth consecutive year, employees at the General Motors Powertrain Romulus Engine plant teamed up with local businesses and GM suppliers and dealerships to donate 380 bicycles, \$12,000 worth of toys, and cash contributions for the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign.

"This is overwhelming!" said plant manager Rick Sutton. "Thank you to the Romulus Engine team for caring about others more than yourselves at this time of year. I'm proud to be part of a team who has this kind of commitment to the community."

"To emphasize our commitment to safety," he added, "GM has provided a safety helmet for each and every bike that was donated."

UAW Local 163 shop chairman Bob Crumley was also impressed.

"The money that has been collected from the Romulus Engine employees

just amazes me," he said. "Hundreds of our employees give their time and money so that less-fortunate children may have a decent holiday."

The donation of 380 bikes marked a significant increase over the first Toys for Tots campaign eight years ago, when 150 bikes circled a plant Christmas tree that was decorated with mittens, hats, scarves, coats, and clothes contributed by employees.

This year's gifts were presented to Sergeant Michael Greene of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve at the annual dedication ceremony, which took place on December 15.

GM Powertrain Romulus Engine Operations, located on Ecorse Road between Wayne and Hannan roads, produces V6 and V8 engines for GM trucks. With approximately 2,000 employees, it is the company's largest engine plant. □

Generous Donations Benefit Goodfellows' Holiday Program



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert was on hand for a presentation of toys, food, and homemade hats and mittens that were donated by the senior citizens at the Romulus Tower.

The Romulus Goodfellows' "No Child (or Senior Citizen) Without a Christmas" program benefits from donations throughout the year, and some of the most generous come in the month of December, just in time for gift-giving. That was certainly true in 2005, when twelfth-month contributions from several local businesses and churches played a big part in the Goodfellows' ability to provide 170 families and 90 senior households with holiday cheer.

Although the many donors are too numerous to acknowledge here, a few of the most noteworthy included the Lear Corporation and its employees, Leonardo's Ristorante, the Strait Gait International Church, Romulus Tower senior-citizen apartments, and various Romulus schools.

Altogether, Romulus firefighters picked up about \$5,000 in toys from Lear, with \$2,000 given by Lear Corp., \$500 by the Unit 53 Fund of Local 174,

\$500 from Gary's Catering, and \$500 from AVI. Workers on the floor at Lear donated \$1,490.90.

Leonardo's Ristorante made its annual contribution of toys to the Goodfellows, and an additional donation of about 400 toys came from the Strait Gait International Church of Romulus.

Seniors at the Romulus Tower added a gift of handmade hats and mittens to their impressive donation of toys and food. Classrooms throughout Romulus held a variety of fund-raisers and donation drives, and their collective contribution of food and toys was substantial indeed.

"The Romulus Goodfellows organization appreciates *all* donations, large and small, that are received from the people in this community," said spokesperson Marianna Tallent. "Hopefully, our citizens' generosity toward their less fortunate neighbors made the season of giving even more meaningful for them."



Guests of honor at GM Romulus Engine's Toys for Tots presentation included 12 local children who met with Santa Claus, sang Christmas carols, made crafts, and selected a bike (with safety helmet) and a toy to take home.



On behalf of the Goodfellows, Romulus Firefighter Tim Rhoton (left) and Lieutenant Scott Ladach (second from left) accepted a donation of toys from Leonardo's Ristorante proprietors Joe (left) and Vito Liparoto and managers Denise Faruggia (third from right) and Lori Lawson.

The Police Beat

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of the Romulus Police Department's significant activity from Sunday, January 1, through Sunday, January 8. (Editor's note: The information below is presented in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

Sunday, January 1

- 1:37 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8000 Merriman)
- 2:07 a.m. – Shots Fired (block of 32100 Bruce)
- 2:15 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 11000 Whitehorn)
- 2:58 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 7070 Chippewa)
- 3:48 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 34400 Lynn)
- 5:00 a.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 10400 Middlebelt)
- 5:15 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7960 Silo Dr.)
- 1:06 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 35200 Michele)
- 2:17 p.m. – Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile (UDAA) (block of 6310 Middlebelt)
- 4:25 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 6860 Merriman)
- 4:31 p.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 33300 Swan Lake Ct.)
- 4:33 p.m. – UDAA (block of 27500 Wick)
- 8:23 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 28400 Halecreek)
- 9:59 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6210 Edmund)
- 10:18 p.m. – Shots Fired (block of 38100 McDonald Dr.)
- 11:27 p.m. – Property Damage/Malicious Destruction of Property (PD/MDOP) (block of 5900 E. Maple)

Monday, January 2

- 12:36 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7020 Niagara)
- 1:21 a.m. – Larceny (block of 5840 Metro)
- 7:35 a.m. – Larceny (block of 8500 Camden Dr.)
- 8:21 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 7600 Merriman)
- 8:37 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 5810 Cogswell)
- 8:48 a.m. – Death Investigation (block of 31100 Flynn Dr.)
- 9:27 a.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (JC/R) (block of 37400 Castle Dr.)
- 10:16 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15600 Larkdale)

- 10:50 a.m. – B&E (block of 13700 Huron River Dr.)
- 11:17 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28400 Greenview)
- 11:34 a.m. – B&E (block of 9000 Wayne)
- 12:35 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28400 Greenview)
- 12:46 p.m. – Death Investigation (block of 15300 Orchard)
- 2:43 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 15300 Merriman)
- 5:19 p.m. – Larceny (block of 39000 Clocktower Dr.)
- 6:27 p.m. – Threats (block of 15400 Orchard)
- 6:49 p.m. – Fight (block of 30200 Beverly)
- 7:06 p.m. – Robbery (block of 30600 Redwood)
- 8:35 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 31500 Wick)
- 9:47 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35500 Smith)
- 10:31 p.m. – Training/School (no address provided)

Tuesday, January 3

- 4:58 a.m. – Threats (block of 9000 Wayne)
- 5:06 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8450 Merriman)
- 5:48 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 9:33 a.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 27400 Beverly)
- 10:56 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 34300 Pine Wood Cir.)
- 11:38 a.m. – UDAA (block of 9900 Harrison)
- 2:49 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 35600 Smith)
- 3:14 p.m. – Larceny (block of 15000 Middlebelt)
- 6:24 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6020 Frederic)
- 7:17 p.m. – JC/R (block of 13600 Cogswell)

Wednesday, January 4

- 12:22 a.m. – JC/R (block of 15000 Middlebelt)
- 6:11 a.m. – Larceny (block of 11600 Metro Airport Center Dr.)
- 6:30 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 35800 Cypress)
- 7:15 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28300 Heather Way)
- 8:05 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28300 Heather Way)
- 8:25 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15700 Isabelle)
- 8:30 a.m. – Larceny (block of 16200 Harrison)

- 8:38 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 30500 Halecreek)
- 12:22 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28600 Zellmer)
- 1:01 p.m. – Larceny (block of 15700 Brandt)
- 2:34 p.m. – Larceny (block of 7010 Metroplex)
- 3:38 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28100 Heather Way)
- 4:51 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 28200 Edinburgh Dr.)
- 7:23 p.m. – Larceny (block of 16700 Glasgow Ct.)
- 7:46 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 30600 Eureka)
- 8:39 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 30700 Eureka)
- 9:31 p.m. – Child Abuse/Neglect (block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 10:10 p.m. – Rescue (block of 16600 Ironstone)
- 10:52 p.m. – Threats (block of 5910 Newberry)
- 11:15 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 15100 Harrison)
- 11:28 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 15100 Brandt)
- 11:56 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 30400 Teak Ln.)

Thursday, January 5

- 2:20 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9450 Biddle)
- 1:57 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 27900 Eureka)
- 2:06 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 6050 Heyer)
- 4:26 p.m. – JC/R (block of 35700 Sussex Ct.)
- 5:15 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Pond Way)
- 7:45 p.m. – Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) (reported at RPD headquarters)

Friday, January 6

- 6:40 a.m. – UDAA (block of 6990 Chippewa)
- 12:47 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:04 p.m. – Hunting Complaint (block of 34300 Goddard)
- 3:19 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 32300 Gateway Dr.)
- 8:05 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28800 Cullen Dr.)
- 8:44 p.m. – Rescue (block of 15000 Plain Way)

Saturday, January 7

- 12:05 a.m. – Shots Fired (block of 7020 Niagara)
- 3:28 a.m. – Threats (block of 5930 Metro)
- 4:51 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 7040 Shawnee)

- 7:37 p.m. – B&E (block of 7020 Metroplex)
- 10:26 p.m. – Medical Assistance (block of 30400 Ecorse)

Sunday, January 8

- 12:59 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6190 Dexter)
- 4:44 a.m. – 911 Cellular (block of 6750 Merriman)
- 6:13 a.m. – Fight (block of 35700 Park Pl.)
- 7:56 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6320 Hunt)
- 11:29 a.m. – Larceny (block of 39100 Cherokee)
- 11:49 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 29200 Ecorse)
- 12:16 p.m. – Rescue (block of 6940 Wayne)
- 2:13 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 16400 Brandt)
- 4:57 p.m. – JC/R (block of 11300 St. Aloysius)
- 5:28 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 34800 Lynn)
- 10:47 p.m. – Larceny (block of 36100 Goddard) □

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REA Presents "Teaching for Tomorrow" Workshop

The Romulus Education Association recently presented a special workshop entitled "Teaching for Tomorrow." The program consisted of a series of workshops conducted by Romulus teachers on a variety of specialized subjects relevant to current classroom needs.

"Teaching for Tomorrow" was an outstanding success," said REA president Jason Salhaney. "The workshops drew more than 100 participants who enjoyed the opportunity to teach and to learn – to share their own expertise with their colleagues, and to acquire new skills in return."

District officials praised the REA Board of Directors and the REA Executive Board for their efforts to develop this professional-development workshop format, and also praised REA members for their collective willingness to prepare, present, and participate in the various workshops.

"We are fortunate to have so many dedicated teachers who are willing to share their professional expertise with their colleagues," said Tom Dolan, the district's curriculum director.

"Our staff members also share their teaching ideas with special presentations during their monthly staff meetings at each school," he added.

Through "Teaching for Tomorrow," Romulus teachers got to attend three 50-minute breakout sessions hosted by their colleagues. The sessions included:

- Light and Sound (Pat Adams, Cory Elementary)
- Integrating Art into the Classroom (Carrie Smith, elementary schools)
- Johns Hopkins 101 and More (Paul Grange, Cory)
- Getting Started with 6+1 Traits and Power Writing (Gerilynn Kline, Barth Elementary, and Karenza Fitch, Wick Elementary)
- Changing the Paradigm of Special Education (Jeff Legg, Barth)
- Creating a Classroom Web Site That's Easy as ABC, 123 (David Pelc and Sarah Carter, Halecreek Elementary)
- Mysteries and Secrets to Successful Science (Jennifer Richard, Wick)
- Tracking Improvements in Fluency with Student-Friendly Excel Design Graphing (Lori Russell, Barth)
- Tough-Kid Toolbox and Working with Challenged Kids (Molly Parent, Halecreek)
- Step It Up (Sheila Stasak, Barth)
- Physical Education Games and More (Gayle Milspaugh, Cory)
- Child Study and the Referral Process (Dr. Gerald Rzepke, Special Services, and Julie Kovar, Halecreek)
- Computers and Getting Back to the Basics (Dawn Sims, Halecreek)
- Be Informed About Math (Margie McAnally, Wick)
- Using Graphic Organizers on the ELA MEAP to Be Successful (ShaVonna Johnson and Staci Alguire, Wick)
- Bring and Bragg Session for Kindergarten Teachers (Marilyn Wood, Wick)
- Exciting Kids – Using Games to Review Content (Dawn Sims, Halecreek)
- Body Phonics (Chris Consales, Wick)

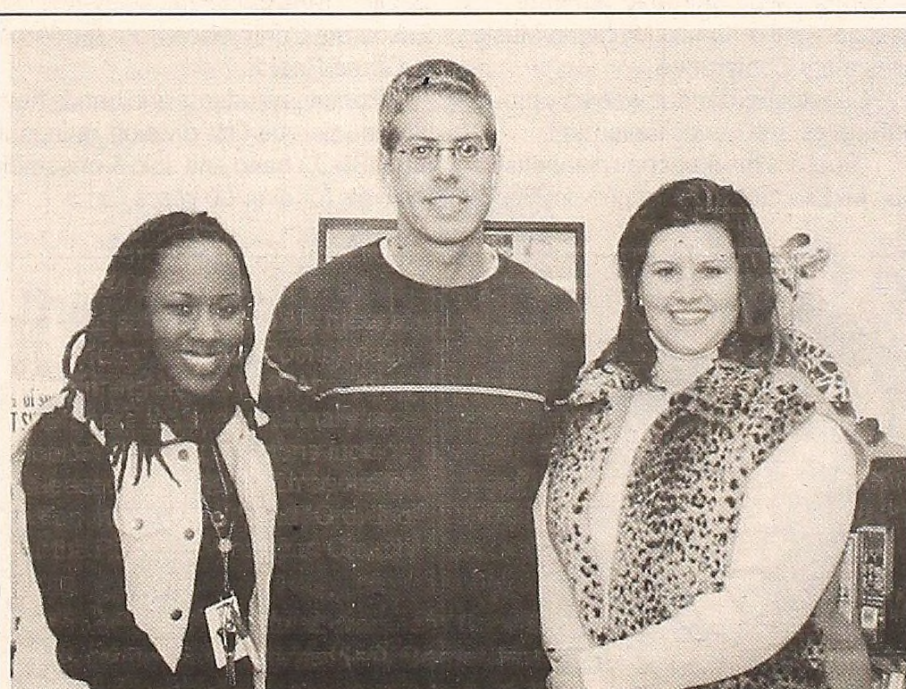
According to Salhaney, the REA hopes to make the workshops an annual event. □



Wick Elementary teachers who made presentations at the Romulus Education Association's "Teaching for Tomorrow" workshop were: (from left) front – ShaVonna Johnson, Staci Alguire, and Jennifer Richard; back – Karenza Fitch, Margie McAnally, Chris Consales, and Marilyn Wood.



REA presenters from Barth Elementary were: (from left) Gerilynn Kline, Lori Russell, Jeff Legg, and Sheila Stasak.



(From left) Dawn Sims, David Pelc, and Sarah Carter were among the Halecreek Elementary teachers who made workshop presentations. (Not pictured: Molly Parent.)

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RMS Student Makes All-State Middle School Band



Sheila Reeves (right), first-chair clarinetist in the Romulus Middle School Symphonic Band, has been selected for membership in the All-State Middle School Band. Her mother, Susan Reeves (left), will accompany her for the three days of rehearsals and a concert in Grand Rapids.

Romulus Middle School band director Mark Fernandez was pleased to announce that clarinetist Sheila Reeves has been selected for membership in the All-State Middle School Band. Reeves was selected based on a competitive audition with 108 clarinetists from all over Michigan.

Reeves will be accompanied by her mother, Susan Reeves, and will stay at the Grand Amway Hotel in Grand Rapids from January 19-21. The 70-member All-State Middle School Band will rehearse for three days, then present a performance on Saturday, January 21, as a part of the annual Michigan Music Educators Conference.

Director Fernandez was very proud of Reeves and her achievement.

"Sheila is the first-chair clarinetist in our Middle School Symphonic Band,

and has really practiced hard for the audition," said Fernandez. "She had to work up a tryout selection, memorize a number of scales, and perform a selection at sight.

"All auditions were tape recorded with only numbers assigned to the students so that the selection process could be completely fair," he added.

The All-State Middle School Band is organized by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association. This is the first year of this All-State group, and its formation coincides with the relocation of the former Midwestern Music Educators Conference from Ann Arbor to Grand Rapids.

Romulus students and bands have won numerous first-division ratings at the MSBOA band and solo & ensemble festivals for over 30 years. □

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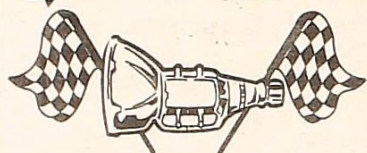
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734-942-7479**RMS "Students of the Month"**

Romulus Middle School principal Phyllis Adkins (left) congratulated December's Students of the Month: (from left) front - Monae Riley, Tamara Garrison, James Fox, and Louis Hill; back - Naikiya Yeamen, Michael Henich, Sierra Gilmore, Courtney Blakeney, and Joanna Rogers.

RMS Students Visit UM

Forty students from Romulus Middle School recently visited the University of Michigan as part of the university's special college orientation program. RMS was one of just 12 schools in southeast Michigan invited to take part in the orientation program.

Romulus Middle School staff members—including principal Phyllis Adkins, counselor Angela Siggia, English teacher Jessika Sorg, social-studies teacher Dan McCabe, and special-education teacher Tikia Shuford—organized and chaperoned the trip. The University of Michigan provided transportation on one of its deluxe buses.

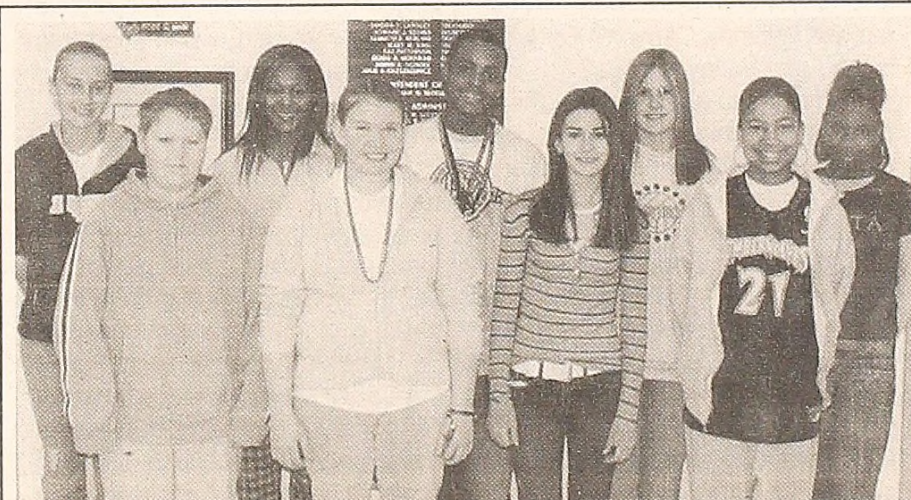
Initially, 90 RMS students were selected by their school's team leaders for possible participation in the tour. To narrow the field, the students were required to write an essay explaining why they should be allowed to go on the tour and how it would assist them in reaching their future goals. Counselor Siggia and teacher Sorg selected the 40 tour members. Sorg, a UM graduate, was familiar

with the programs, and had often served as a tour guide during her college career.

Among the tour's highlights was an explanation of UM's admissions procedures and the requirements—including high academic standards—that must be met by students seeking admission. The RMS students also got to interact with college students and faculty members, explore career possibilities, and observe "Planning for College" skits.

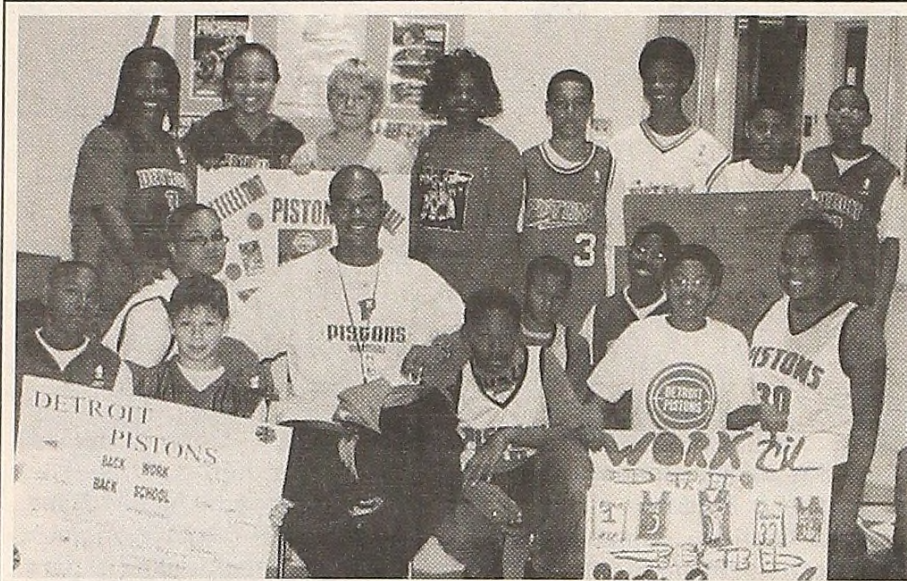
"We wanted to present an opportunity for our students to learn about college careers and college life," said Siggia. "The UM student leaders who served as guides, mentors, and role models provided excellent guidance to our students. Campus landmarks, classes, and dormitories were visited, and even a dormitory meal was included in the tour."

Principal Adkins noted, "Our visit to UM was extremely successful. Romulus Middle School students now understand how important a post-secondary education is, and what they will have to accomplish to earn that college degree."



Among the 40 RMS students who traveled to the University of Michigan for a special campus tour were: (from left) front - Donald Williams, Leanne Dawson, Sheila Watts, and Ciera Franklin; back - Ashley Waggle, Daijah Street, Jardon Haywood, Sheila Reeves, and Danyale Taylor.

Pistons Official Aaron Smith Visits Wick Elementary School



Aaron Smith (middle row, second from left), Year-round Hoops Director for the Detroit Pistons, talked to Wick Elementary students about the things he needed to do to be successful. His audience included: (from left) front – Paul Massey, Joshua Shellman, Marquise Thomason, and Aaron Hicks; middle – Kierra Wright, Mikos Jones, Clifton Boddie, and Pajenai Eubanks; back – ShaVonna Johnson (fourth-grade teacher), Kaylan Robb, Fredrick McAnally, Tavia Redmond (sixth-grade teacher), Bryant Moore, Daniel Crumpler, Joshua Matthews, and Martrey Gregory.

Aaron Smith, Year-round Hoops Director for the Detroit Pistons, recently visited Wick Elementary School. Smith, who is employed by Palace Sports & Entertainment, presented a special assembly about life skills.

Principal Debbie Juriga was very pleased that Wick had been selected from thousands of Michigan schools who applied for this program.

"Our students really got a lot out of the motivational program presented by Aaron Smith," she said.

"Smith stressed positive things that students can do to improve their success. Among his suggestions were:

- organize study materials,
- make a homework schedule, and
- develop goals for the future.

Students also got to show off their basketball-shooting skills during the interactive assembly.

Additionally, each student received a special Ben Wallace bookmark as a reminder of the importance of education and hard work in achieving success. □

AAA Travel High School Challenge Could Net \$25,000 for Michigan Teen

If you're driving due west from Dodge City, which state will you first encounter? In what state is the world-famous Waimea Canyon? For what is the Loire Valley famous?

Answers to questions like these could earn Michigan high-school students a chance for a \$25,000 college scholarship in the fourth annual AAA Travel High School Challenge.

Teenagers around the country are getting ready to flex their travel and geography muscles to answer such questions, and those with the most correct answers may be well on their way to an expense-paid trip to Orlando to compete for \$100,000 in college scholarships and prizes.

The contest aims to increase teens' travel knowledge and geographic literacy while creating awareness of career opportunities in the

travel and tourism industry. The national contest is open to all U.S. students in grades 9–12 (public, private, or home-schooled), with winners from all 50 states and the District of Columbia traveling to Universal Orlando May 13–16.

The contest begins with a 40-question online quiz – available at www.aaa.com/TravelChallenge – through January 17. The top five scorers in each state will take a proctored, written exam in early March.

"The AAA Travel High School Challenge sharpens students' travel literacy by focusing on the culture and history of travel and tourism destinations," said a AAA spokesperson. "We hope the Travel Challenge will not only encourage teens to study travel geography, but will also spark an interest in travel and tourism." □

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Archway Keeps Wick Students Warm



Wick Elementary principal Debbie Juriga (center) gave warm thanks to Archway Marketing Special Events Committee members Sally Thomas (left) and Pam Thomas, who brought more than 150 pairs of mittens and scarves for students in need.

RHS Teacher Abdo, Students Brighten Ware Family Holiday

When the family of Romulus High School student Latisha Ware lost all their belongings in a fire at the Wellesley Townhouses not long before Christmas, holiday cheer was on the wane. But RHS math teacher Kathy Abdo and her students did their part to put some spirit back into the season.

Abdo challenged her five math classes to donate whatever money they could to help the Ware family, and promised that she would match any amount they raised.

"My students were very generous," said Abdo. "We were able to buy three complete outfits for Latisha, some household items, and a new stereo."

"I was really pleased with the entire event, and particularly the smile on Latisha's face when she received all her gifts," Abdo added. "This made all my students and Latisha very happy."

Abdo, who is a Romulus resident, has actively supported student groups throughout her teaching career in the Romulus Community Schools. □



Helping to make Christmas bright for Latisha Ware (front, center), whose family lost all their belongings in a recent fire, were Ware's math teacher, Kathy Abdo (back, left), and many of Abdo's students, including: (from left) front – Latrice Parnell and Jonathon Daugherty; back – Lauren Alley and Hailey Mangrum.

Merriman Gives and Receives



Merriman Elementary reteacher Lorianne DeDomenico (back, right) was proud of the fourth-graders (from left: Adoyjah Davis, Kayla Menser, Demonte Brown, and Riana Scott) who led a "Coins for Kids" drive that raised \$277 for needy Romulus families.

Students at Merriman Elementary enjoyed a wonderful holiday season, both giving and receiving gifts.

On the giving side, Merriman second-graders conducted a mitten drive that garnered several boxes of mittens and scarves for needy Romulus families served by the Romulus Helping Hand, and fourth-grade students led a school-wide coin drive that raised \$277 for additional families in need.

Among those who received gifts were 10 students who benefited from the Trenton Chrysler Engine plant's Clothe-A-Child Day. This generous program, funded by the plant's employees,

provided each child with a new winter coat, school clothes, boots, shoes, and additional clothing items. Gifts and clothing were also sent home for the students' younger siblings. Principal Shellie Moore and social worker Renee Kish helped coordinate the program.

"This outstanding program also had Chrysler employees volunteer their time to take the children shopping so that their clothing would fit properly," said Kish. "The program left both children and adults with many fond memories."

"We thank the Trenton Chrysler Engine plant for including us in this wonderful opportunity," she added. □



Merriman principal Shellie Moore (back, left) congratulated second-grade students who organized the school's annual mitten drive for the Romulus Helping Hand. Student leaders included: (from left) Braxton Smith, Alicia Genigeski, Miryea Sturdivant, Caleb Baker, Kayla Davis, and Code Kazmar.

RHS/RMS Concerts



Looking forward to their performance in the annual holiday concert were Romulus Middle School's performing arts students, including: (from left) front – William McCall, Alexander Carter, Wendi Durtka, Jaiana Powers, Tia Evans, and Gary Pollard; back – Stephanie Andrew, Mylon Rose-Fleming, Catherine Bratcher, Chelden Gober, Jamarco Stephens, Leslie Johnson, and Chantia Frazier.



In high spirits before their holiday concert were Romulus High School's Symphony Band members, including: (from left) front – Monet McCroan, Monique Walker, Krista Smith, Chelsea Earby, LaJoya Rush, and Jessica Fox; back – Alan Huguley, Mari Clay, Jennifer Caloia, Jetaun Robinson, and Shaniya Dye.



RHS Choir members were all smiles before their holiday program. Among them were: (from left) front – Carrie Hampton, Tatiana Gray, and Tanisha Hubbard; back – Stacy Davidson, Brittany Hampton, Patricia Chorba, Angelica Cummings, Anna Bestamante, and Drake Rhodes.

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Elementary Programs



Among those eager to sing in Barth Elementary's annual holiday program were: (from left) front – Camania Wafer, Mackenzie Kretchmer, Sydney Bossidis, Alexis Bossidis, and Taylor Ramsey; back – Julie Littler, Kaylin Webb, Taryn Bergman, Jackson Arold, Emilee Keys, and Sarah Bossidis.



Wick Elementary students – including (from left) Lauren Abney, Jalen Watson, Jordin Burrell, Ramiro Nevels, Cerdon Abney, Courtney Richards, Katy Whitehill, Kyra Millwood, and Joshua Robinson – gave an outstanding performance at their holiday concert.



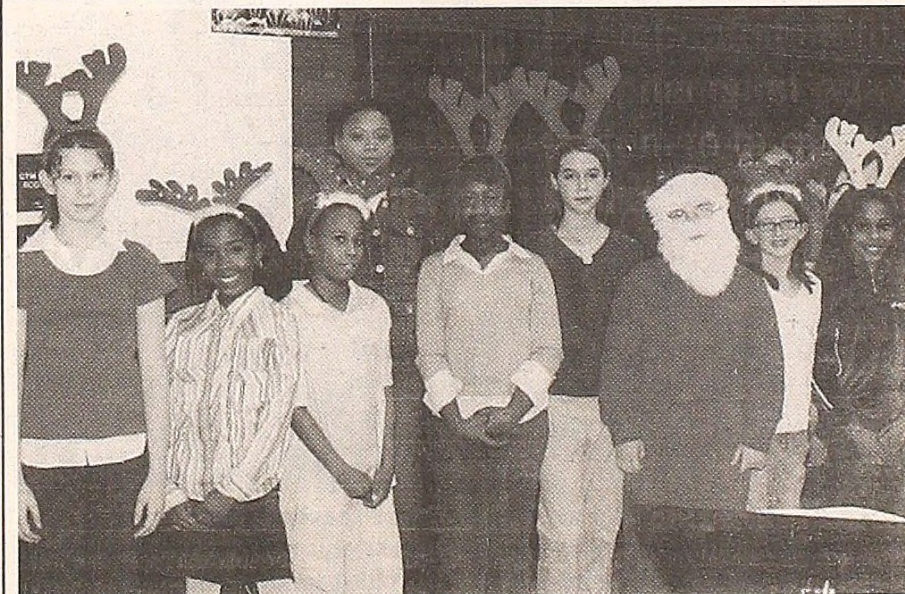
Halecreek Elementary students who gave their best at the school's annual holiday concert included: (from left) Mikayla Swaszy, Kilah Stewart, Brianna Kennedy, Jourdyn Chambers, Jada Wilson, Katherine Lewicki, Jenna Vail, and Joseph Crosby.



Among the Merriman Elementary students who sang in their school's annual holiday concert were: (from left) Alonah Dillon, Caleb Whiting, Cierra Pierce, Aleana Rogalski, Julia Sears, Alicia Genigeski, Damien Buggs, and Destiny Hicks.



Leads in Romulus Elementary's holiday musical play were: (from left) Averiana Richey, LaToya Colvin, Eddie Hitchings, Jenafir Kennedy, Zaakirah Roper, James Newbill, and Kevin Kaweck.



Additional actors in the RES play were: (from left) front – Sarah Tackett, Shaywan Whitloo, Kyle Denham, Kayla Jackson, and Austin West; back – Porscha Brantley, Amanda Linnert, Kylee Johnson, and Morgan Anderson.

Spirit of Giving



Wick Elementary Student Council advisor Thomas Gibb-Randall (back) and Student Council members used money raised through their recent coin drive to shop for Christmas presents for Wick families in need. Among the young fund-raiser/shoppers were: (from left) front – Anton Hayes, Nicole Wilson, Cierra Gasser, Alicia Adams, Shakari Cummings, Deja Arrington, Brittney Burnette, and Aaliyah Mosley; back – Louise Hood, Nancy Burcroff, Chelsea Shellman, Ashley Mauby, Lakesha Frison, Maya Davis, Aaliyah Young, Kaylan Robb, and Julie Rollins.



Romulus firefighters Jason Pittman (left) and John Fauls (right) thanked Barth Elementary Student Council president Savannah Moffat, secretary Holly Hammond, and treasurer Dayna Heard for the school's generous donation of more than 50 pairs of mittens and scarves for the Romulus Goodfellows' "No child without a Christmas" program.



(Back, from left) Cory Elementary resource teacher Sarah Scott, social worker Sally Berger, learning specialist Rob Baty, and third-grade teacher Laurie James helped members of the sixth-grade Executive Board – including (from left) Jordan Council, Nakeya Pinkston, Azia Riley, and Andrianna Lewis – prepare holiday gifts that were purchased for local families with money raised by the students.

Community Calendar

- **Rec Center Offers Tae Kwon Do** – There's still time to register for the Romulus Recreation Department's latest tae kwon do classes – open to ages 7 through adult – which will meet at Romulus High School from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. (beginners to green belt) and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. (blue belts & up) on Tuesdays and Thursdays through March 9. Cost is \$50 for one person, \$85 for two immediate family members, or \$120 for three immediate family members. For more information, stop in at the Center (35765 Northline Road) or call 734-941-8665.
- **"Early Church Worship Service"** – Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have lived during the early church period? To attend worship? To hear the apostles speak and teach? To sing the songs of the Gospel? Thanks to a dramatization presented by musician/actor Paul McKenzie, you'll have that chance. Join Community United Methodist Church (corner of Bibbins and Olive in downtown Romulus) at 7 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, to see this unique program, which will be preceded by a potluck supper at 6 p.m. This event is open to the public, and no admission will be charged. (A freewill offering may be made during intermission.) For more information, call Kathy at the church office: 734-941-0736.
- **Chicken Dinner at CUMC** – A chicken dinner will be served at Community United Methodist Church (corner of Bibbins and Olive in downtown Romulus) at noon on Sunday, January 29, after the morning worship service. The menu will consist of fried chicken, baked potato, 7-layer salad, carrots, rolls, pie, and beverage. Suggested donation is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5 to 12. Carry-out available. For more information, call Kathy at the church office: 734-941-0736.
- **Family Reading and Science Programs** – The Romulus Public Library's "Life Through the Ages" program will continue at the library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 4 ("Magnificent Mesozoic: Into the Air"), and conclude from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 4 ("Sensational Cenozoic: Back to the Sea"). These free, hands-on programs for children ages 6 to 11 will provide families with opportunities to read and learn together about the fossil record and geological time, with an in-depth look at many fascinating organisms. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **Library To Start Teen Book and Pizza Club** – The Romulus Public Library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) is organizing a Teen Book and Pizza Club to promote great books and lively discussion. All programs will take place at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month beginning in February. For further information about the program, please call the library at 734-942-7589.
- **"Second Monday" Book Club** – Meetings of the Romulus Public Library's new Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – will be held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Advance registration is not required; just read the suggested book, then drop in. Copies of the suggested books will be available at the library, or library staff members can assist you in getting an interlibrary loan. Books planned for upcoming discussions include: *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* (fiction) by James McBride (February 13); *Dearly Devoted Dexter* (a mystery) by Jeff Lindsay (March 13); *The Great Gatsby* (classic fiction) by F. Scott Fitzgerald (April 10); *Beautiful Jim Key* (nonfiction) by Mim Eichler Rivas (May 8); and *Chocolat* (fiction) by Joanne Harris. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **GriefShare** – GriefShare recovery seminar and support group will meet at the Romulus Wesleyan Church (37300 Goddard, at Five Points) each Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. beginning January 12. According to seminar facilitator Barbara Schultz, GriefShare features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include "When Your Dreams Fall Apart," "The Seasons of Grief," "Emotions of Grief," "When Your Spouse Dies," "Your Family and Grief," and "Growing Through Grief." For more information, call the Romulus Wesleyan Church at 734-941-1511 or visit www.griefshare.org.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information
concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, temporarily located at Romulus Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga, call 734-941-6009.)

Grand Opening of New Senior Center

The grand-opening celebration for the new Romulus Senior Center—located at 36525 Bibbins in downtown Romulus—will be held on Friday, January 20, at 10 a.m. Tours of the facility will be among the highlights of the event.

Since no official "move" date has been set, senior programs will continue to be held at the Center's temporary site until further notice.

Help with Signing Up for Plan D

Linda Peak, case manager for the Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency, will be at the Romulus Senior Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month to assist senior citizens in signing up for Medicare Plan D.

Seniors planning to consult with Peak should bring their Social Security and Medicare cards, a list of medications, proof of income, and any paperwork they have received about Plan D or the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP).

Shopping Trips

For a transportation fee of just \$1.50, Romulus seniors can ride the Center's van for shopping at Wal-Mart, Farmer Jack, and the Dollar Store (Monday, January 23, 9:30 a.m.) and/or Kmart (Monday, January 30, 9:30 a.m.)

Seating is limited; advance registration required.

Casino Twosome Trip

Travel to the Soaring Eagle Casino (Mt. Pleasant) and Little River Casino (Manistee) February 2-3 for just \$35 (\$60 minus \$25 in total rebates).

Space is limited; register at the Center.

Other Trips

Other bus trips planned by the Romulus Senior Center include:

- **"Turkeyville (Murder on the Air)"** (January 26; \$65),
- **Bay Mills** (February 26-27; \$110; \$30 rebates and \$10 food credits),
- **Kewadin** (March 28-29; \$50 after rebates) Sign up at the Center.

A Big Thank-you!

The Romulus Senior Center would like to express its sincere thanks to United Auto Workers Local 845 for their recent donation of 20 boxes of food to 20 lucky senior citizens.

Contributions like these helped keep the holiday spirit alive!

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- Ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- Game Day (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.).

Chiropractic Clinics

Dr. Craig Everingham from Everingham Chiropractic will be at the Romulus Senior Center at 1:15 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month. (Next date: January 23.)

To make your appointment, please call 734-941-5620.

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Friday at 12 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat if you would like to participate.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost.

To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff.

Commodities Pickup

Just a reminder that the pickup time for Commodities and Focus: HOPE is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. (Next date: January 19.) This program is available to low-income individuals/families of all ages.

Call the Senior Center for eligibility guidelines.

Liquid Nutrition Pickup

Again, just a reminder that the pickup time for Liquid Nutrition is 9 a.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. (Next date: February 8.)

Hot Lunches

Just a reminder that the Romulus Senior Center serves a hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. each weekday for only \$1.75. Call at least 24 hours in advance to make your reservation. □

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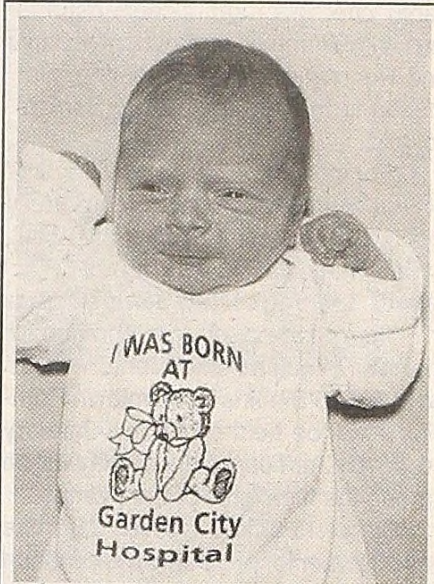
Bree-Anna Paige Keezer

Proudly announcing the birth of their new daughter, Bree-Anna Paige Keezer, are Jason Keezer (Southgate, MI) and Kelly Minner (Romulus, MI).

Bree-Anna was born in Garden City Hospital at 8:51 a.m. on Wednesday, November 23, 2005, weighing 4 lbs., 7 oz., and measuring 18 in.

Especially excited about the new arrival were her aunts, Kimberly, Casey, and Crystal (all of Romulus), as well as her new uncle, Timmy (Southgate), and her cousins, Nathaniel, Brenden, Jonathon, and Emilee (all of Romulus).

Also welcoming the newest addition to the family were her paternal grandparents, Bob Keezer (Flat Rock, MI) and Debbie Stevens (Southgate), and her maternal grandparents, Dennis and Jackie Minner (Romulus). □



Bree-Anna Paige Keezer

Wedding Bells

Kevin and Chasity (Randolph) Jadzinski



Chasity and Kevin Jadzinski

Congratulations to newlyweds Kevin and Chasity (Randolph) Jadzinski (Romulus, MI), who were married on November 19, 2005.

The couple – engaged since October 29, 2002 – exchanged their vows at Romulus Wesleyan Church.

Standing up with Kevin were his best man, Jeff Young, and groomsmen Rodney Walker, John Walker, and Justin Jadzinski. Chasity was attended by her maid of honor, Sandy Gretzler, and bridesmaids Ann Sperber, Megan Wojciechowski, and Katrina Jadzinski.

Kevin is the son of the late Frank and the late Tetti Jadzinski. Chasity's parents are Joyce Randolph and the late Wilburn Randolph. □



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REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 12, 2005

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, December 12, 2005, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice-president Celeste Roscoe.

Roll call showed members Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Cheryl Buckley, and Thomas Kuderik present. Members April Frayer and Niema White were excused. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-president Roscoe.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

12/05/3 Moved by Buckley, supported by Kuderik, to approve the Agenda as amended. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

12/05/4 Moved by Mientkiewicz, supported by Buckley, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 28, 2005, as amended. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

12/05/5 Moved by Buckley, supported by Lenossi, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Study Session of December 5, 2005, as amended. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following Personnel Actions for Board approval.

FYI – EMPLOYMENT: Cynthia Jendritz, Kindergarten Aide, Merriman Elementary School, Effective December 12, 2005; Terri Moffat, Kindergarten Aide, Merriman Elementary School, Effective December 8, 2005; and Casey Smith, Kindergarten Aide, Wick Elementary School, Effective November 30, 2005.

FYI – LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Stacy Paige, Secretary, Halecreek Elementary School, Effective January 4, 2006 to March 24, 2006.

FYI – RESIGNATION: Julie Wykle, Kindergarten Aide, Romulus Elementary School, Last Day to Work – January 6, 2006.

Bills for Payment

12/05/6 Moved by Lenossi, supported by Kuderik, to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Resolution – Ryan McLachlan

12/05/7 Moved by Roscoe, supported by Mientkiewicz, that the Board of Education adopt the resolution for Ryan Jordan McLachlan, as presented, for commendation for achieving the Gibraltar, Michigan Boy Scout Troop #1232 and Boy Scouts of America Eagle Scout Badge. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Special Education Presentation

Ms. Jeffery Royal, Director of Special Education; Mr. Jeffrey Legg; and students from Barth Elementary School appeared before the Board of Education to present "The Cookie Club." The Cookie Club Crew consists of students from the special-education cross-categorical classroom for grades 3–6. The crew also includes fifth-grade students who are chosen by their teachers, and one very enthusiastic second-grade student.

NCA Leadership – Tom Dolan

12/05/8 Moved by Buckley, supported by Kuderik, to proceed with the North Central Association Accreditation Application – School District and Systems Accreditation as presented by Mr. Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mr. Robert DeMoise appeared before the Board with concerns about an incident at Romulus High School. The Administration will investigate and get back to the family.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

The following Items of Interest were presented to the Board by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent: 1) Thank You – Jean Voight; 2) High-Performing Schools: What Works – Conference; 3) Governor's Summit – March 27, 2006; 4) Communication – Senator Raymond Basham; 5) Communication – State of Michigan – Office of Career and Technical Preparation; 6) Employee Directory and School Board Policies; 7) Cory Elementary School Newsletter; 8) Romulus High School Newsletter; 9) Wick Elementary School Newsletter; 10) The Merriman Star; and 11) FRN Conference – Washington, D.C.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mr. Thomas Kuderik complimented Mr. Mark Fernandez and his Middle School band students for their great concert at the Middle School. He further congratulated Ms. Sheila Reaves for her All-State Middle School Band award. Mr. Kuderik commended the High School band for their performance in the Downriver Parade.

Mrs. Cheryl Buckley commended the High School basketball team for their win in Milwaukee.

Mrs. Celeste Roscoe reminded everyone that schools would be closed from December 16, 2005 to January 3, 2006.

Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz asked about the Letter of Compliance from the Civil Rights Audit, and whether we were in progress of taking corrective action. Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, stated that action was being taken to make minor corrections. Mr. Mientkiewicz further asked who was in charge of the audit, and was informed that it was Mr. Ed Clark and Mr. Bill Musham.

ADJOURNMENT:

12/05/9 Moved by Lenossi, supported by Mientkiewicz, to adjourn. Ayes: 5. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Secretary, Romulus Board of Education

Obituaries

Sylvia J. Bowdler

Sylvia J. Bowdler of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, January 5, 2006, at the age of 71.

Sylvia – born in Pike County, Kentucky, on Friday, March 2, 1934 – was employed at Kelsey-Hayes from 1971 to 1984. She enjoyed bingo, collecting Avon bottles, gardening, and homemaking.

Surviving Sylvia are 3 daughters, Alice H. Cummings (Romulus), Shirley Bowdler (Cape Coral, FL), and Angela Slater (Ft. Myers, FL); 2 sons, Bruce Bowdler (Flat Rock, MI) and Charles Bowdler (Sarasota, FL); a brother, Mil-

lard Caudill (Belleville, MI); a sister, Betty Maynard (MI); 6 grandchildren; and 4 great-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Mallard and Molly Caudill; 2 brothers, Randall (who passed away in 1972) and Donald (1991); and 2 sisters, Tunie (1960) and Joyce (2004).

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, January 10, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Frank Martin (Community Lutheran Church, Flat Rock) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Scott M. Crout

Scott M. Crout of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Friday, December 9, 2005, at the age of 26.

Scott was born at Annapolis Hospital in Wayne, Michigan, on Friday, August 24, 1979. A 1998 graduate of Romulus High School, he was employed as a laborer with the City of Romulus Department of Public Works.

Surviving Scott are his parents, Harry and Sandy Crout (Romulus, MI); a sister, Terri (Randy) Moffat (Romulus); 2 nieces, Savannah and Miranda Moffat

(Romulus); his maternal grandparents, Harvey and Betty Rhodes (Belleville); and many uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends who will miss him deeply.

Among those who predeceased him were his paternal grandparents, Ray and Bessie Crout.

A funeral service was held on Monday, December 12, at Uht Funeral Home (Westland, MI), with Reverend Beth Titus officiating. Scott's friends and his sister Terri also spoke and shared memories. Cremation rites were accorded.

Charles G. Howard

Charles G. Howard of Lincoln Park, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, December 15, 2005, at the age of 64.

Charles – born in Clay County, West Virginia, on Thursday, March 20, 1941 – was a U.S. Army veteran who served his country in Vietnam. The Chrysler Corporation retiree (1993) was also employed with Thrifty until May 2005. He enjoyed playing cards, watching television, and drinking coffee.

Surviving Charles are his mother, Victoria (Parker) McKuhen (Detroit, MI); 2 sons, Charles W. (Jennifer) Howard (Trenton, MI) and Gregory A. (Anita) Martinez (Wiscasset, ME); a stepson, Robert Lee (Jeanine) Moore (Lincoln Park); 2 brothers, Fred G. Howard (Detroit) and Dale A. Howard (Westland, MI); 2 sisters, Diane S. (Jerry) Maisano (Redford, MI) and Mary L. (John) Ford (Detroit); 7 grandchildren; and 2 step-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased him were his father, Fred G. Howard (who passed away in 1963); his wife, Drucilla G. (Zimmerman) Howard (2004); a daughter, Robin Dione Howard (2001); a brother, Mitchell R. Howard (2002); and a granddaughter, McKenzie D. Howard (2004).

A funeral service was held on Monday, December 19, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Pastor Robert J. White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Memorial tributes to the Vietnam Veterans of America would be greatly appreciated by the family.

For more information about placing obituary notices, call 734-941-1907.

Gertrude Kerentoff

Gertrude Kerentoff of Boynton Beach, Florida, passed away on Thursday, January 5, 2006, at the age of 84.

The former resident of Romulus, Michigan, was born in Detroit, Michigan, on Friday, November 4, 1921.

Gertrude is survived by a niece, Rosemarie Hallagan (Boynton Beach).

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Nelson and Katherine

(Fitzgerald) Coash; her husband, Allen Kerentoff; a brother, Nelson Fitzpatrick; and 3 sisters, Geraldine Wooden, Marie Binkinz, and Mary Grace.

A funeral service was held on Sunday, January 8, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu (St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Romulus) officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Paulette Robinson

Paulette Robinson of Trenton, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, December 18, 2005, at the age of 64.

The former resident of Romulus, Michigan, was born in Columbus, Georgia, on Monday, March 3, 1941.

Paulette, who loved to spend time with her family, was among those who worked to organize the Grandparents Rights Organization. A member of the Smart Women Investors Club, she enjoyed traveling, cruises, and gardening, especially flower gardening.

Surviving Paulette are her husband, Harry Robinson; a daughter, Pennie

(Duane) Brantley (Canton, MI); 2 sons, James E. (Lynn) Robinson (Wayne, MI) and Rodney D. Robinson (Inkster, MI); 7 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Otis and Lorene (Porter) Odums.

A funeral service was held on Friday, December 23, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor James Ayler officiating. Interment was at United Memorial Gardens (Plymouth, MI). Memorials to the American Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Suzanne M. Stawarz

Suzanne M. Stawarz of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, December 27, 2005, at the age of 69.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Sunday, October 4, 1936.

Suzanne loved to spend time talking with family and friends, and was actively involved as a crafter and festival volunteer at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus). She was a wonderful homemaker who especially enjoyed crocheting, sewing, and baking.

Surviving Suzanne are her husband, Thomas Stawarz; a son, Joseph P.

Leineke (Houston, TX); a sister, Mary L. McClive (Ferndale, MI); and a grandchild, Astin Berry (Houston).

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, George W. and Marian G. (Walters) Leineke, and a previous husband, Joseph Sheko.

A funeral service was held on Friday, December 30, at St. Aloysius Church, with Father Festus Ejimadu officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery. Memorial tributes to the American Heart Association would be greatly appreciated by the family. □

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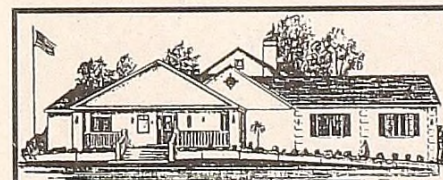
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